

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for supplying information to a user about a physical location visited by the user, comprising:

a portable device adapted to be carried by a human being user, the portable device having a unique device identification code;

a reader adapted to read the device identification code of the portable device of the user in close proximity to the reader, the reader being associated with a physical location to be visited by the user and having a unique reader identification code, the reader including capability to supply as an output the device identification code of the portable device when read along with the reader identification code of the reader;

a control center receiving identification information identifying an identity of the physical location and associating the received identification information with the reader identification code of the reader; the control center adapted to receive the device identification code and the reader identification code output by the reader, the control center adapted to supply fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code to a user information destination associated with the received device identification code; the control center receiving from the user feedback information relating to an amount of usefulness to the user of the information supplied from the control center.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the control center supplies the feedback information to a representative of the physical location without identifying the user of the portable device.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the feedback information identifies whether too much or too little information about the physical location was supplied to the user.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the control center receives from the user an amount of information to be supplied to the information destination; and the control center supplies an amount of the fulfillment information in accordance with the user supplied amount of information.,

5. The system of claim 4, wherein the feedback information supplied by the user identifies whether the amount of information supplied by the control center to the user

information destination is consistent with the user identified amount of information to be supplied.

6. A system for supplying information to a user about a physical location visited by the user, comprising:

a plurality of portable devices supplied to human being users, each of the portable devices having a respective device identification code;

a plurality of readers adapted to read the device identification code of a portable device in close proximity to the respective reader, each of the readers associated with a respective physical location and having a respective reader identification code, each of the readers having capability to supply as an output the read device identification code and the reader identification code of the respective reader;

a control center receiving identification information identifying an identity of each of the physical locations and associating the received identification information with the reader identification code of the respective reader associated with the respective physical location; the control center adapted to receive the device identification code and the reader identification code output by each of the readers, the control center adapted to supply fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code to a user information destination associated with the received device identification code.

7. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information based on usage of the plurality of portable devices and the plurality of readers.

8. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information pertaining to a quantity of reads by each of the readers relative to quantities of reads of the other of the respective readers.

9. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information relating to demographic information of the users of the portable devices based on the reading of the portable devices of the users by the readers.

10. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by each of the readers disposed within a

predetermined category of physical locations relative to quantities of reads of the other readers disposed within the predetermined category.

11. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by each of the readers disposed within a predetermined geographical area relative to quantities of reads of the other readers disposed within the predetermined geographical area.

12. The system of claim 6, wherein the control center generates statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by each of the readers disposed within a predetermined category of physical locations within a predetermined geographical area relative to quantities of reads of the other readers disposed within the predetermined category within the predetermined geographical area.

13. The system of claim 6, wherein each of the portable devices includes means for selectively setting by the user of a mode of operation of the respective portable device in one of an enable mode and a disable mode; and each of the readers is adapted to read the device identification code of only portable devices set in the enable mode.

14. The system of claim 13, wherein the means for selectively setting in each of the portable devices are adapted to enable the user to change the mode of operation while visiting a physical location having a reader.

15. A process of supplying information relating to a visited location to a user of a portable device, comprising the steps of:

providing to a user a portable device having a device identification code stored on or in the portable device;

identifying by the user of an information destination to which information is to be supplied when the user utilizes the portable device;

associating the identified information destination to the device identification code of the portable device provided to the user;

disposing a reader within or near a physical location about which information is to be provided, the reader having an associated reader identification code;

identifying to a control center information associated with the reader identification code and relating to the physical location;

visiting by the user of the physical location;

reading by the reader of the device identification code stored on or in the portable device;

supplying to a control center the reader identification code and the device identification code of the portable device read by the reader; and

supplying by the control center the information associated with the supplied reader identification code to the information destination associated with the supplied device identification code of the portable device.

16. The process of claim 15, further comprising the steps of viewing by the user of the information supplied to the information destination; and supplying from the user to the control center feedback information relating to an amount of usefulness of the information supplied from the control center.

17. The process of claim 16, further comprising the step of supplying the feedback information to a representative of the physical location without identifying the user of the portable device.

18. The process of claim 16, wherein the feedback information provided from the user to the control center identifies whether too much or too little information about the physical location was supplied by the control center to the user identified information destination.

19. The process of claim 15, wherein the step of identifying by the user of the information destination includes the step of identifying by the user of an amount of information to be supplied to the information destination; and the step of supplying by the control center is carried out by supplying the information associated with the supplied reader identification code in accordance with the identified amount of information to be supplied to the information destination.

20. The process of claim 19, further comprising the steps of viewing by the user of the information supplied to the information destination; and supplying from the user to the

control center feedback information relating to whether the amount of information supplied to the information destination is consistent with the user identified amount of information to be supplied.

21. The process of claim 19, wherein the step of providing to a user of a portable device is carried out by providing to a plurality of users respective portable devices, each of the portable devices having a respective device identification code; and the step of disposing a reader within or near a physical location is carried out by disposing within or near a plurality of physical locations respective readers, each of the readers having a respective reader identification code.

22. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information based on usage of the plurality of portable devices and the plurality of readers.

23. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by a respective one of the readers relative to quantities of reads of other of the readers.

24. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information relating to demographic information of the users of the portable devices based on the reading of the portable devices of the users.

25. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by a respective one of the readers disposed within a predetermined category of physical locations relative to quantities of reads of readers disposed within the predetermined category.

26. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by a respective one of the readers disposed within a predetermined geographical area relative to quantities of reads of readers disposed within the predetermined geographical area.

27. The process of claim 21, further comprising the step of generating statistical information relating to a quantity of reads by a respective one of the readers disposed within a predetermined category of physical locations within a predetermined geographical area

relative to quantities of reads of readers disposed within the predetermined category within the predetermined geographical area.

28. The process of claim 15, further comprising the step of selectively setting by the user of a mode of operation of the portable device in one of an enable mode and a disable mode; and wherein the reading step is carried out only when the portable device is set in the enable mode.

29. The process of claim 28, wherein the step of selectively setting the mode of operation of the portable device is carried out during the step of visiting by the user of the physical location.

30. A system for supplying information to a user about a non-commercial facility, visited by the user, comprising:

a portable device adapted to be carried by a human being user, the portable device having a unique device identification code;

a reader adapted to read the device identification code of the portable device of the user in close proximity to the reader, the reader being disposed within or near a non-commercial facility to be visited by the user and having a unique reader identification code, the reader including capability to supply as an output the device identification code of the portable device when read along with the reader identification code of the reader;

a control center receiving identification information identifying an identity of the non-commercial facility and associating the received identification information with the reader identification code of the reader; the control center adapted to receive the device identification code and the reader identification code output by the reader, the control center adapted to supply fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code to a user information destination associated with the received device identification code.

31. The system of claim 30, wherein the fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code relates to a history of the non-commercial facility associated with the reader having the supplied reader identification code.

32. The system of claim 30, wherein the fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code identifies the occupants of the non-commercial facility associated with the reader having the supplied reader identification code.

33. The system of claim 30, wherein the non-commercial facility is a memorial; and the fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code identifies individuals represented by the memorial associated with the reader having the supplied reader identification code.

34. The system of claim 30, wherein the non-commercial facility is a memorial; and the fulfillment information associated with the supplied reader identification code identifies a history of events represented by the memorial associated with the reader having the supplied reader identification code.

35. A process of supplying information relating to a non-commercial visited facility to a user of a portable device, comprising the steps of:

providing to a user a portable device having a device identification code stored on or in the portable device;

identifying by the user of an information destination to which information is to be supplied when the user utilizes the portable device;

associating the identified information destination to the device identification code of the portable device provided to the user;

disposing a reader within or near a non-commercial facility about which information is to be provided, the reader having an associated reader identification code;

identifying to a control center information associated with the reader identification code and relating to the non-commercial facility;

visiting by the user of the non-commercial facility;

reading by the reader of the device identification code stored on or in the portable device;

supplying to a control center the reader identification code and the device identification code of the portable device read by the reader; and

supplying by the control center the information associated with the supplied reader identification code to the information destination associated with the supplied device identification code of the portable device.

36. The process of claim 35, wherein the step of identifying information associated with the reader identification code is carried out by identifying information relating to a history of the non-commercial facility.

37. The process of claim 35, wherein the step of identifying information associated with the reader identification code is carried out by identifying information relating to an identity of the occupants of the non-commercial facility.

38. The process of claim 35, wherein the step of disposing a reader is carried out by disposing a reader within or near a memorial; and the step of identifying information associated with the reader identification code is carried out by identifying information relating to identities of individuals represented by the memorial.

39. The process of claim 35, wherein the step of disposing a reader is carried out by disposing a reader within or near a memorial; and the step of identifying information associated with the reader identification code is carried out by identifying information pertaining to a history of events represented by the memorial.